

# The Art of Being

The Agreeable  
Child

By Adelaide  
Gordon

## Etiquette in the Nursery a Practical Advantage All Through Life.

Parents, train your children to be agreeable! It is an old story, you have told them, to their future, and remember, if you please, that the habit of good manners, like love and languages, is most easily and most permanently acquired in extreme youth. I bring no startling nor unusual charge against the American child when I say that it is the exceptional very young citizen who is blessed with the meritorious habit referred to above. At this present moment the young American enjoys almost an international reputation for what I might euphemistically call unconventional behavior. Not to mince matters, and just between ourselves, I will go a step further and say that the manners of our average small boy and girl leave almost everything to be desired.

Nevertheless there is something to be said in extenuation of their grievous and conspicuous unpleasantness, the fault is not wholly theirs. Our children, if the truth must be told, don't enjoy but half a chance to grow up otherwise than as healthy little savages. They suffer in the possession of such peculiarly undisciplined, unreasonable and neglectful parents, and thereby hangs my lecture.

### Etiquette in the Nursery.

I hold a real grudge and complaint against the careless indifference of the American father and mother. They take a good deal of trouble over and

pride in teaching Bob and Molly how to control their knife and fork, wipe their feet on the door mat, and to answer with common civility when addressed, but beyond this elemental point parental energy and interest in nursery etiquette languishes. Now I give you my word that I have seen trained animals who had been taught as much as that Monkeys, etc., can and do learn all such tricks, but for the sake of the children the parents really should go a step further.

I can soon see why, along with their A, B, C's and multiplication tables, the little folk should not learn what charm means and how to exercise it. Most of them do not, however, and grow to find that without this excellent talisman to success and happiness, they are greatly at a loss and disadvantage. Then they seek alone to acquire the art of pleasing, the art of unselfish social consideration, which means so much, and which is so hard sometimes for the adult to practice. Nursery etiquette need not be a complicated, stern, productive of prigs. Proper instruction will produce instead a generation of delightful, companionable little folk, who, no matter how poor or how plain they may be, will have the blessing of a manner that is sure to make wonderfully smooth and pleasant for them their path through life.

Incidentally this manner will contribute a great deal to the comfort of everybody with whom the child is brought in contact. I wish parents would think of that as one of the present and future of their progeny and take pains accordingly.

I can strengthen my argument and attitude on this point by the recital of an instance that came very recently under my personal observation, and which goes to show the well-nigh cruel injustice of the parent to the child where a question of manners is involved. The case in point is that of a typical offender, of a small uneasy, compunctious little fellow, who crossed the Atlantic. His table manners, I confess, were very good, and he was a handsome little lad of 8 years of age, with an unusual amount of intelligence and fine sturdy character of the best sort shining in his big brown eyes. With his undeniable beauty and quick wit and good principles he should have been a prime favorite with us all, whereas, from the captain to the cook, we grown-ups aboard cordially detested and we almost feared him.

There is no gainsaying that he was a genuine Yankee boy, cheerfully disrespectful, frankly disobedient, middle-some, purring, bragging, and quite pathetically ignorant of the fact that all of his behavior turned the milk of human kindness to acid against him wherever and whenever he appeared. "And the odd thing to me is," said a dignified old English gentleman, whose cap Bobby dauntlessly and playfully shook off, "that the child's parents are such quiet, even well-bred people."

That was true enough. His mother

was an amiable lady whose own behavior, was irreproachable, and she adored her Bobby. But if I could not make it quite clear to the old Englishman that while Bobby's mother would sacrifice much for the boy, she would not and did not scruple to let him win equities for himself at every stage of his young career.

At home, no doubt, Bobby's misbehavior was as it is the case in many American homes, misinterpreted as an evidence of doughty independence of mind, interesting individuality, and originality, and quite permissible animal spirits. Bobby shouted "Hello!" when he greeted the passengers in the morning, and it was considered, by Bobby's parents, a matter for admiring laughter when he answered back, hit hard verbally, talked saucily in a grown-up air of equality with elderly folk, and broke off conversations with questions or irrelevant speeches. Alas, poor Bobby! Some day he will have occasion to wish, with almost many tears, that he had been taught an indefinite something in his childhood that goes to make a popular man.

### A Charming Child.

Of course, Bobby might have been a charming child, and all for the sake of a little instruction, and furthermore the truly charming child is not an impossible order of small being out on the pattern of Little Lord Fauntleroy. A charming child in one who is taught to recognize from its cradle days that it is bound to show consideration for the rights and comforts of others. Another important fact it learns to understand and respect is that a good speaking voice is like a strong letter of recommendation. It tells the stranger at once that the little owner is the pupil of good breeding. Let healthy children shout at play and out of doors at the full strength of their lungs, but the self-inflicted injury of the high and peevish voice of an American child is incalculable. It is so easy to teach children to exercise perfect control

of their vocal organs, and a sweet, modulated tone can be acquired so easily before the tenth year is reached. After twenty it is so difficult to procure.

The charming child is taught right in its own playroom and back yard, all the stopping stones that lead to the practice of the fine arts of grown-up hospitality. A child is quick to realize, if properly instructed, the courteous duties it owes as host to a visiting child, and the grace of sweet speeches. There is not the least difficulty in impressing on the 7-year-old mind the importance of saying "Excuse me," or "I beg your pardon," when a playmate's discourse is interrupted, or when an indiscretion has been perpetrated, or an unavoidable accident happens.

Again it is quite easy to make a child of 7 appreciate the excellence of deference in allowing their small guest, or an older person, to pass on first through a doorway, down steps, or into a lift first; and it is the rare, strange and unusual small boy who, if rightly directed and instructed, will not take an instinctive masculine pride in showing a gallant way with the petticoated half of humanity, whether the wearers of the founes are of his own age, or are women.

"No, thank you; ladies first," said a school boy of not more than 10, the other day, when he held open the post-office door for an elderly and very crabbed looking Irish woman, whose ladyhood was apparently of a dubious quality. It was charmingly done; a 10-year-old masculine tribute to the whole sex. He blushed up to his merry eyes as the old washwoman stared at him, and then her sour expression broke into a smile of the purest pleasure. She swept into the postoffice with almost a ladylike air, and she called him "a little gentleman." And this was more than a pleasing incident—it was beautiful, and unmistakable evidence that the boy was being taught at home the first steps toward the insur-

ance of popularity and charm of manner for his advantage and advancement in his manhood years.

In the social kindergarten it is a matter of prime importance that children recognize that in the society of adults they should observe the good old axiom regarding their conduct. This axiom is a dead letter indeed for most of our boys and girls, and one unpleasant charge I have to bring against the American child is that he is heard from too much and too often. In the average American household the visitor sees and hears a great deal of and from the children. They take a prominent part in the conversation, express emphatic opinions, interrupt, contradict, and are laughed at and with for their sallies of wit or wisdom.

The consequence of this very unnatural familiarity between parents and children is not always happy. It was a talkative, sharp-voiced, keen-eyed maiden of nine brief summers who boldly broke into my conversation with her mother. When she was removed, not once, but three times, the long-suffering mother announced that little Lena would have to spend her morning indoors if she violated the rules of good behavior again. "Well, I'd just like to see you make me," asserted little Lena, serenely, whereat there was a family laugh, and when breakfast was over, little Lena, with supercilious obligingness, gave us the benefit of her company on a drive. Later on she spent a full hour in my room at nap time, and not until she fell asleep in her chair at 10 o'clock could she be persuaded to go to bed.

I had visited the house as the guest of the child's parents, but little Lena and her two little brothers were in my unwilling company the better portion of my stay. "I am afraid the children are a good deal in the way," was the excuse my hostess made, but that was all, and not very soon again shall I feel inclined to spend a few days in the society of little Lena.

She, like Bobby of fearsome steam-

ship memory, is a specimen of the common American child who grows up to say in despite, "Why am I not a lady?" And she, like Bobby, could so easily have been taught the whole theory and practice of childhood's charm.

### The Irresistible Exception.

Now, the exceptional, the well bred boy or girl, is always and ever an irresistibly fascinating little personality. And there is one, I could mention, a pale, plain little person, whom grown-ups and her playmates alike delight to honor. Her charm dwells in the fact that she is so unobtrusive. She has such a pretty manner of greeting a visitor, waiting to be spoken to, giving her hand and smiling as though so pleased to see the newcomer. She carries with the shillest in the playground, but her indoor voice would charm the birds off the bushes.

Talk to her, if you like, and she will answer as readily and intelligently as any child I know, but she can sit with perfect composure at a table full of grown people and say never a word. In the nursery her manners are as becoming as out of it. She knows enough not to shout out, "Good-bye, Mary," or "Hello, Jack," from the top of the stairs to an arriving or departing friend. She goes down to the door saying, "I am sorry you must go, Mary," or "I am very glad to see you, Jack," and her face was a study in the expression of the valiant self-control and good breeding of a well-trained hostess when Jack in play broke her beloved doll.

"It does not really matter," she said, courageously civil, even in her maturity. "She can be mended, and I don't want you to feel at all bad about it. Come, let's play bears." It was beautiful, was it not? And could not even the dullest of us, on rereading the episode, prophesy for the well-mannered little maid that her ways are sure to be ways of pleasantness, and all her path will be full of peace?

## THE BLUE JAY AT THE BAR

By Ernest Harold Baynes.

A few days ago I received a letter from a lady whose tender heart is filled with indignation because the thoughtless boys in her neighborhood have declared war on the blue jays. The boys, if I understand the case, have no intention of wrongdoing; on the other hand they seem to be under the impression that they are conferring a benefit on bird and man, by ridding the community of a confirmed devourer of eggs and nestlings. Before denying the righteousness of the warfare, it seems fair to ask from what source comes the information concerning the blue jay's villainy. Have these boys actually seen great numbers of bird homes destroyed that the jays might stay their hunger?

If they have, then I beg them to let no word of mine interrupt their work; let them lead their guns to the muzzle and give no quarter. Otherwise, perhaps it may be well for them to pause and consider whether they are really waging a righteous war, or whether they are merely killing helpless creatures which they have condemned to death on hearsay evidence. There is a law in all civilized countries to the effect that when a citizen is charged with an offense, he is entitled to a fair trial, and that he may not be punished unless he is actually proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. A few years ago the blue jay was brought to the bar of justice, charged with the destruction of eggs and nestlings. He was tried impartially by competent judges, who heard and weighed the evidence for and against as carefully as though a man's life had been at stake, and the expenses of the trial were paid by the United States government. The principal witnesses in the case were a few men who testified that they had seen the blue jay eating eggs and fledglings, and 292 blue jays, all of whom gave their lives that they might be present at the trial, and of whom 28 testified positively to the falsity of the charge. The evidence of the defendant was so overwhelming that the jury returned a verdict of "not guilty" without leaving the court room. This is, of course, just one way of telling the story, which is nevertheless a true one. The United States government in 1896 caused the food of the blue jay to be brought to the bar of a right investigation. An examination was made of 292 stomachs of blue jays collected in every month of the year, from twenty-two states, the District of Columbia and Canada. In only five of all these stomachs were there found the remains of birds or of the shells of small birds' eggs. Of the three egg shells found in three of the stomachs, one, and probably two, were empty shells, eaten after the young had been hatched. It might be claimed that the jays often eat the contents of eggs without swallowing the shells, but by giving eggs to captive jays it has been shown that the birds are even more anxious for the shells than for the contents.

A great many other facts came out at this investigation. It was shown that more than three-fourths of the blue jay's food consists of vegetable matter, and that of the animal food the greater part was made up of insects, though there was a small percentage of spiders, myriapods, snails, fish, salamanders, tree frogs, mice and birds. Most of the insect food consisted of beetles, grasshoppers and caterpillars, and besides these there were a few bugs, wasps and flies. It was found that blue jays fasted almost every month of the year, and the proportion of insect food varies from 1 per cent in January to over 66 per cent in August, the average for the year being nearly 27 per cent. Insectivorous grasshoppers, crickets and locusts begin to form an important item in the blue jay's bill of fare as early as July, amounting to nearly 20 per cent of his food during August and he continues to eat them in considerable numbers until December. Amongst the caterpillars to which the bird gives his attention may be mentioned those of the brown-tail and gypsy moths, which work such havoc in the trees in certain parts of the country.

Of course, those who are in favor of the destruction of the blue jay will return to the attack and tell us that since it is admitted that over three-fourths of the bird's food consists of vegetable matter, and since his fondness for corn, fruit and other farm produce is well known, he must cause the farmer enormous losses. Let us examine the evidence. The vegetable food of the blue jay was found to consist of "mast" such as acorns, chestnuts, beechnuts, hazelnuts and sumac; grain, such as corn, wheat, oats and buckwheat; fruit, such as apples, strawberries, blackberries, mulberries, blueberries, buckberries, wild cherries, choke cherries, wild grapes and elder berries, and miscellaneous things such as oak galls, mushrooms and tubers. Now for the proportions. The mast amounted to 42 per cent of the whole food for the year, corn less than 18 per cent, wheat, oats and buckwheat together, rather more than 14 per cent. The apples were found only in January, February and March, and consequently were merely frozen fruit left to decay on the trees. Of the many fresh fruits

eaten between March and October, only four, strawberries, currants, blackberries and mulberries, were of the kind which are cultivated. The miscellaneous things were found in but a few stomachs, and constituted but a very small percentage of the whole food.

On the whole, it was found that the blue jay was a most desirable bird to have, either as an ally of the farmer, who pays but a meagre pittance for benefits received, or as a handsome, jolly neighbor, who is with us the year round, and who cheers us with his bright plumage and clever mimicry when bird life is at its ebb.

### "SLEEPY MAC'S" JURY ADDRESS.

(New York Press.)

Two old friends were reminiscing. "Did you ever come across Lieutenant Edward McNeill?" asked the railroad manager. "Edward McNeill?" repeated the former instructor at West Point. "Why, there was a cadet of that name in my class at the military academy. We called him 'Sleepy Mac.' I wonder if that's the man you mean. He was with the Twenty-first infantry. He left the service about twenty years ago and took up the practice of law in Portland."

"He's practicing law still; one of the ablest lawyers in Oregon," "Sleepy Mac." That's right, I knew him when I was connected with the Oregon Railroad and Navigation company. Most remarkable man!"

"So he was when I knew him. He belied his nickname. He was just about the most wideawake fellow we had in college, but he had a solemn, sleepy look about him. Didn't appear to observe anything or to hear anything, but nothing escaped him."

"Ever hear of how he convicted Hyde Brackman in one of the county courts in Oregon soon after leaving the army? I happened to be there and witnessed it."

"Brackman was known all over the northwest as a tough citizen; but he had lots of friends among the rougher element who would lay down their lives for him. It was charged against him that he was a horse thief, highwayman, freebooter, mail robber, gambler, mine salter, and lots of other evil things, but he always managed to escape justice. He had an altercation with a friend of 'Sleepy Mac's' and killed him. His excuse was self-defense. Instead of shooting him on the spot, Mac decided to take him to court and let the law deal with him for manslaughter."

"The whole section turned out to the trial, which was conducted in the usual frontier style. From the very start, however, it was plain that Judge and jury were siding with Brackman, as well as were the spectators. It looked black for Mac. He hadn't a friend to help him. If anything, he looked sadder than ever, and was about the calmest man in the whole bunch. Brackman, on the contrary, was topknotical and insolent toward him."

"At last the judge charged the jury in Brackman's favor, of course, as the twelve peers were about to march out to give an imitation of finding a verdict 'Sleepy Mac' arose, held up his hand as a signal to stop, and said with awful emphasis and solemnity:

"Your honor has seen fit to charge in the prisoner's favor, and the jury are about to find a verdict of 'not guilty.' I, however, as a juror, consider well what I am about to say. I advise you to find the prisoner guilty, for you know—by your souls—how guilty he is. Your duty gentlemen, FIND A VERDICT OF GUILTY! For by the living God, I swear that if you do NOT find him guilty I will put a bullet through his heart the moment you free him of this charge."

"Wasn't that hot stuff?"

"Yes, yes! But go on. What did the jury do?"

"Returned a verdict of guilty. Brackman was sentenced to fourteen years in the penitentiary, and served his time."

"What did the judge do with Mac?"

"It was the worst case of contempt of court I ever heard of."

"The judge was a man of sense. He overlooked it."

"The judge was a man of sense. He overlooked it."

# Walker's Store



## SPRING MILLINERY OPENING

Monday, March 14, 1904.

OUR MILLINERY DEPARTMENT will present a perfect beauty show of the very newest creations and most novel ideas from Paris and our Domestic markets.

Our Pattern Hats, in fact our entire showing, is more distinguished this season by evident style and exclusiveness. You can hardly have a clear idea of fashion's present trend without seeing the exhibit.

See these Hats—make your selections before serious inroads are made in the now perfect assortment.

### \$35--Walker's Suits for Women--\$35.

Have you seen the Walker Suits at \$35.00? They're the most surprising regular values Salt Lake has ever known. We've scoured the markets "everywhere" to get them together. It's an idea of ours to make them an all season special, and not a feature of a day or week.

Here's the point: A \$35.00 suit of Best Workmanship, Perfect Model, Best Materials, Best Style Ideas, \$40.00 to \$45.00 values.

We want to make these famous; we want to make it plain that you should come to Walker's for your suit needs; we want you to talk about them. And choosing's not confined to one or one dozen, but to many dozens. Come Monday and all the season and make their acquaintance.

### Our Corsets for a Dollar.

The new ones you should read about in W. B. G. D. C. B. and Warner's. White batiste lace trimmed corsets with long habit hip; has supporters attached. For stout, medium or slender figures. They are well tailored, well boned, shapely; kind you usually find in higher grades.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, \$1.00.

### 50c Children's Under Waists--35c.

White jean underwaists for children in sizes 1 to 12 years. Lace trimmed, tape buttons, strap seams, attachment for hose supporters. A durable washable waist of the "Ideal" make. 50c values for 35c.

## Dress Goods.

The Dress Goods Section is really an exhibition of the very newest weaves, styles and colors in Silks and Dress Goods. It offers an opportunity for choosing from a stock that embraces the "absolutely correct."

### Art Department Reduction.

All hemstitched Linens, Roman cut work embroidery, squares, scarfs, round pieces and doilies are offered this week at one-third off regular prices.

### One-Third Off

DOILIES—15c, 20c, 25c and 30c. SQUARES—30c, 75c, 85c, \$1.00 up to \$3.00. SCARFS—35c, 50c, 75c, 85c up to \$1.50.

### Hair Goods Demonstration.

This is the last week of this demonstration, as Mrs. Petri is to leave, but before doing so she desires to close out her entire stock, and in order to do so she offers all hair goods at less than half their real value. The Last Week. Don't Miss It.

### Lace Curtains.

A very handsome lot of curtains have just arrived, including grenadine, net and swiss, in all the newest patterns.

Grenadine, silk stripe.....\$3.00 to \$4.50 per pair  
Grenadine, colored cotton stripe.....\$2.00 and \$2.50 per pair  
Swiss, in pretty patterns.....65c to \$3.00 per pair  
Net, ruffled edge.....\$1.25 to \$5.00 per pair  
It is not too early to buy curtains if you wish first choice.

### Glove Special--Three Days.

The "Lolia" Glove, that is always good value at \$1.50, to be lowered in price for three days to 98c.

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